

REMARKS

Applicants reply to the Final Office Action dated December 8, 2006 within the three month statutory period for reply. Applicants request an Advisory Action, if necessary. Claims 1-16 were pending in the application and the Examiner rejects claims 1-16. Support for the amendments may be found in the originally-filed specification, claims, and figures. The amendments to the independent claims may be found at, for example, paragraph [0139] of the present published application. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejects claims 1-16 as being obvious over Grenchus et al., U.S. Patent No. 7,054,824 ("Grenchus"), in view of Rousseau, et al., U.S. Publication No. 2002/0001001 ("Rousseau"), and further in view of Teveler et al., US Publication No. 2001/0034663 ("Teveler"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

According to an exemplary commodity recycling method of the present invention, a commodity collected from a first user is sold or leased to a second user based on an estimated remaining life of the commodity, and thus the life of the commodity is effectively used. Also, information for specifying a country which is suitable for dismantling the commodity can be used. As such, it is possible to realize a global recycling system for effectively recycling commodities worldwide.

Specifically, it is possible to minimize the energy required for transportation to a consuming country on the way to the final dismantling country since it is possible to determine the consuming country on the way to the final dismantling country using the most suitable final dismantling country information for each commodity category (e.g., car and airplane) as shown in, for example, Figures 8B and C of the present published application.

Applicants assert that neither Grenchus, Rousseau, Teveler, nor any combination thereof, disclose or suggest a feature of the presently claimed invention, namely, "information for specifying a country which is suitable for dismantling the commodity". Further, neither Grenchus, Rousseau, Teveler, nor any combination thereof, disclose or suggest constructing a recycle support system from a global view point.

Applicants also assert that neither Grenchus, Rousseau, Teveler, nor any combination thereof, disclose or suggest at least the features shown in Figures 8A to D. In other words, none of the cited references disclose or suggest the feature of "information for specifying a country

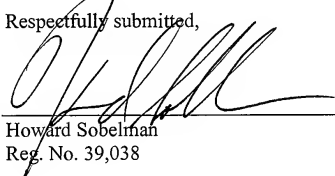
which is suitable for dismantling the commodity". Therefore, none of the cited references disclose or suggest constructing a recycle support system from a global view point.

Accordingly, neither Grenchus, Rousseau, Teveler, nor any combination thereof, disclose or suggest a recording section with at least "information for specifying a country which is suitable for dismantling the commodity," as similarly recited in independent claims 1, 9, 15 and 16.

Claims 2-8 and 10-14 variously depend from independent claims 1 and 9, so claims 2-8 and 10-14 are differentiated from the cited references for the same reasons as set forth above, in addition to their own respective features.

In view of the above remarks and amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims properly set forth that which Applicants regard as their invention and are allowable over the cited references. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the Examiner's convenience, if that would help further prosecution of the subject application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. **19-2814**.

Respectfully submitted,



Dated: February 28, 2007

By: Howard Sobelman
Reg. No. 39,038

SNELL & WILMER L.L.P.
400 E. Van Buren
One Arizona Center
Phoenix, Arizona 85004
Phone: 602-382-6228
Fax: 602-382-6070
Email: hsobelman@swlaw.com